Back to school: What you need to know

APS Superintendent Releases Plan for Inman Overcrowding
By Kate Sandhaus, Candler Park Education Chair

In a July 26 letter, APS Superintendent Erroll Davis announced his proposed solution to Inman Middle School overcrowding. “At this point,” Davis wrote, “I believe we have a solution that will work for the planning period [through the 2021-22 school year].”

Davis’ proposed plan entails adding 6-8 classrooms to Inman, which will add capacity for roughly 200 students, while also converting Centennial Elementary into K-8 by the 2014-15 school year, which would reduce the middle school’s population by another 200 students -- a net increase of roughly 400 students to the school’s current capacity.

With one less feeder elementary and the new classrooms, Davis said, Inman could get rid of its portable classrooms and restore its playing fields. The now-closed Walden school in the Old Fourth Ward would be used to make room for more fields for the cluster.

Davis said he expects to have more news soon about the Old Fourth Ward’s now-shuttered, historic Howard school. “We are optimistic,” he wrote, “that the facility will be more fully utilized than it is today.”

Candler Park parents have worked for two years to keep Mary Lin students in the successful Inman / Grady cluster that our community helped to build. Davis’ proposed plan is both aligned with what CPNO Education Committee members have advocated for, and it is also a solution that is fair and equitable for the entire cluster.

The next step is for Davis’ proposal to go to the Atlanta Board of Education for a vote, which is likely to happen in the next 1-2 months.

See Schools, p. 7
President’s Message
By Steve Cardwell, CPNO President

As you receive this, we will likely be shortly entering into September. September isn’t the usual month for our Fall Festival, but when faced with competition from other festivals around town, the committee chose to move the festival to the weekend of September 28th and 29th. The Festival and the Tour of Homes are showcase events for our neighborhood and our opportunity to show others what we are all about in Candler Park. It’s also a chance for all of us to have quite a bit of fun in our own backyard. A large team of folks led by Mark Clement, Leslie Kipling, and supported heavily by Peter Bluestone, put a ton of work into making it a highly enjoyable and family friendly affair. I can’t thank all the folks that make it happen enough and I encourage everyone to attend and reflect on how lucky we are to live in this amazing neighborhood.

To reiterate my message from last month’s Messenger, we really need folks to step up and take the reins of the leading the neighborhood, whether it be as a board member or a member of a committee. We’ve accomplished a lot this year with regards to the Master Plan, Sidewalks, Education, etc., but much remains undone and the world of Atlanta is always changing around us. In order for us to control our own destiny, we need to tap the deep strength of our neighbors and friends to encourage engagement and build consensus around issues that affect us all. If you are not sure if or how to get involved, email me at president@candlerpark.org and come to a meeting! I’ll see you there.

Thanks,
Steve
About those Festivals in Candler Park...
Who speaks for you?

By Amy Stout

“And I speak for everyone who lives on [my street].” So far, this is one of my favorite comments provided by a survey respondent.

“What survey?” you ask.

Just in case you have not heard, there is an important survey currently being conducted. Perhaps you were not aware that you could go online and anonymously express your opinions regarding the length, size, volume, and impact of festivals and special events being held in Candler Park?

Well yes you can! And the time is now. So speak up for yourself. And do it today.

The CPNO Committee on Events in Candler Park wants your input. Please take a few minutes to go online and complete our survey: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CPNO_Festival_Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CPNO_Festival_Survey). All questions are multiple choice, but there are ample opportunities to submit comments, concerns, questions, and suggestions related to the various special events permitted in our local public park.

Responses have been coming in all summer, but it’s time to wrap this up. We want to make sure we have heard from as many neighbors as possible though, so please act soon! The survey will be closed for analysis and summarization later this month.

Don’t have Internet access? Please call me at 404-371-0505, and we’ll make alternative arrangements.

Master Plan Update
By Messenger Staff

After a year of research and community engagement, the Candler Park Neighborhood Organization membership will vote on the new Candler Park Master Plan at the August 19 meeting. The community comment period on Master Plan drafts ended in July. If approved by the membership, the Master Plan will go to the NPU and to the City for review and adoption.

Jimmy Bligh, Master Plan Committee Chair, would like to remind everyone that there’s still more work to do. “Also important to note those projects won’t just happen with plan being approved,” he wrote in a recent email. “It will take the work of more dedicated volunteers to take ownership of these projects and work with the neighborhood and city to make them happen.”

More Master Plan details will be available soon. Contact Jimmy Bligh at jimbobligh@gmail.com with any questions about the plan or if you would like be involved in the next steps.
Candler Park Neighborhood Organization
Membership Meeting
July 15, 2013
[DRAFT]

The meeting was called to order by Steve Cardwell, President, at 7:05 pm.
Thank you to Front News Page for providing refreshments.
The motion to adopt the agenda as amended passed.
Visitors: Major Meadows and Captain Shaw, representing APD Zone 6, answered questions concerning the apparent increase in crime. APD has identified 9 or 10 juveniles who seem to be the main perpetrators. Five plain clothes officers with vests have been added to each watch to patrol a defined area (includes Candler Park neighborhood). Zone 4 and Zone 6 are participating in a pilot using a new program entitled Predictive Analytics. APD is also working with APS mapping truancy and crime.

Announcements:
1. NPU-N – Mark Clement has resigned as an alternate. He apologized to the membership for not following the zoning process.
2. David Rotenstein has been appointed by the Board as the new Editor of the Messenger. He is a historical writer by profession. His plan is to add more writers and create a product that is more than just news and crime.
3. Jeff Elrod has been appointed by the Board to be the new CPNO webmaster. He will coordinate with David to provide more editorial content.
4. “Love Your Block” grant- Amy Stout was awarded the full $1,000 to use for the golf course beaver pond improvements.
5. New Belgium Brewing gifted CPNO the sum of $240 from their Bicycle program.
6. Messenger Ads and Distribution- Peter Bluestone has assumed the responsibility for selling ads and for the distribution system.
7. Friends of the Candler Park Golf Course- Michael Short reported that the golf course master plan is complete and he has applied for a grant from Park Pride for the improvements. The group must show that it can match the funds. He is also developing a program of golf instruction for children (ages 8-12). The program will start as soon as he has complied with City of Atlanta requirements.
8. Little Five Points Business Association plans to attend our meeting next month to field questions about The Halloween Festival.
9. Master Plan- A hard copy of the Master Plan is available. Bonnie Palter will be responsible for loaning the copy to anyone who requests it. A copy of the draft is also available by email.
10. Mark Leech- Mark has an organization for international students called Mark’s Home Stay. He is looking for volunteer families to host students. The website is MarksHomestay.com; email is markshomestay@gmail.com.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the June membership meeting passed.

Master Plan Discussion- Aaron Fortner, Market and Main, announced that the next draft of the Master Plan will be ready July 26th. He solicited comments from the members regarding the accuracy of the document. There is still time to provide feedback on line. He is encouraging us to vote on the Plan at the next meeting so that we will be able to present it to the City Council by September. He reminded the members that the implementation of the plan is our responsibility and it is best to prioritize the projects. His recommendation is to start with the Oakdale and McLendon intersection traffic calming recommendations.

Officer and Committee Reports:
1. Membership- Lexa King summarized the results of the June 26th FUNDraising Meeting at Manuel’s. There are five ‘ideas’ that have owners; there are eight that need owners. All ‘ideas’ will be posted on the website.
2. Treasurer- Peter Bluestone reviewed the Profit/Loss report. We have $77,777.00 on hand. We have realized some income from the Messenger.
3. Zoning- Fox Brothers Restaurant is requesting neighborhood input on the deposition of the corner lot which they have purchased.
4. Public Safety- Report was given by Steve Cardwell in the absence of Jimmy Bligh.
   a) July 10th Meeting- Lexa King and Bonnie Palter summarized the meeting content. Lexa was surprised that some of the neighborhoods had off duty police officers patrolling. Four concepts that were emphasized: Call 911; Neighborhood Watch; Clean Car Campaign; Surveillance Cameras.
   b) Off Duty Police Officer- Discussion about whether the neighborhood wants to fund an off duty police officer to patrol 3 hours 3 days of the week. The rate...
quoted is $35/hour. The officer would patrol (walk) according to a plan he develops from crime statistics. The police officer has full authority to make arrests. He will carry his radio and be on the same frequency as 911. The motion to fund up to $499 for an off duty officer with a plan to analyze data during the trial period was defeated.

c) Crime Prevention Expert- Christian Russell has approached the organization regarding his expertise on crime prevention. Lexa King and Bonnie Palter will meet with him as soon as possible.

5. Environment- Eric Rubenstein reported that Southface Institute will, free of charge, assist us in forming a conservancy for the park. He is still awaiting more information from the Georgia Marathon regarding which mile will be assigned to us. We will need at least 30 volunteers, not runners, for the cheering section.

6. Special Projects- Mark Clement reported that FallFest plans are going well. The dates for the Fallfest are September 28 and 29, 2013. Sponsorships are still in the beginning stages of solicitation.

7. Vice President- Dave Radlmann continues to work on obtaining funds for sidewalks around Goldsboro Park.

8. Communication- no report

9. Education- Kate Sandhaus reports that there is a very good possibility that the Mary Lin expansion will not start as scheduled. The major obstacle is land use stemming from a portion of Freedom Park.

Mary Lin’s scores are now in the 90th percentile which is a decline from past years. The biggest drop was 5th grade math scores. Inman Middle School issues will be resolved before Superintendent Davis leaves his position.

10. Master Plan- no report

11. Events- no report, chair unable to attend

12. Sidewalk- Clifton Mack reported on the progress of the sidewalk replacement in front of the park entrance. In addition to this, the committee has surveyed all the sidewalks in the neighborhood. Twenty-five percent of the 15 miles of sidewalk are damaged. Colin Heydt, co-chair, will step down due to out of state commitments during the next school year. Anyone interested in helping Cliff is welcome.

Requests for funding:
The sheep will be in the park July 27 to work on ravine B. In conjunction with their visit, Mark Clement requested funds for “Meet the Sheep’ and an ice cream social. Motion for $200 for the ‘petting sheep’ and ice cream passed. The working sheep are funded by Sweetwater and Trees Atlanta.

Zoning Presentation-

a) 1445 Benning Place- Application for a variance to reduce west side and front yard setbacks for a porch. Motion to support the application passed.

b) 296 Josephine- This application is made for splitting of the lot back to the original two lots. The owner wants to sell the second lot (300 Josephine). The motion to consider and review the request to separate the lots into 296 and 300 Josephine passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Submitted by Bonnie Palter, Recording Secretary
July 15, 2013
IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING SELLING, IT IS A GREAT TIME TO SELL. CALL ME TODAY. 404.808.1528

16%!!!!!!
THE PERCENT WHICH ATLANTA HOME PRICES GREW IN ONE YEAR (FEB TO FEB)
-ATLANTA BUSINESS CHRONICLE

Candler Park Streetscape Improvement
By Messenger Staff

McLendon Avenue between Candler Park Drive and Callan Circle is getting an upgrade. In February, the Atlanta City Council awarded B.E. Guthrie Construction, Inc., a $198,643 contract for streetscape improvements that include repairs to one of Candler Park’s most heavily traveled and most visible sidewalks.

The city’s scope of work for the sidewalk adjacent to the park included the removal of the deteriorated sidewalk, construction of a new concrete sidewalk, ADA-compliant cut-outs and ramps, a granite seat wall, granite curbs, and a new concrete gutter.

Work began in July and about half of the sidewalk repairs had been completed by mid-August. The contract, which is managed by the Atlanta Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs, requires work to be completed within six months.

Photos by Messenger Staff
Mary Lin Renovation Slated for Late September

By Kate Sandhaus, Candler Park Education Chair

The long-awaited Mary Lin renovation and expansion is somewhat delayed, but is still a go! It is tentatively scheduled to break ground on September 23. This is contingent on completion of the permitting process.

The project phasing is as follows:

- **Phase 1** - Site Utilities (Storm Drainage System, Fire Line, Water Line)
  Sep 23, 2013 - Dec 18, 2013

- **Phase 2A** - Construction of New 2-Story Classrooms and Support Spaces, Paving and Landscaping Improvements

- **Phase 2B** - Renovation of Cafeteria/Kitchen, and Classrooms
  March 1, 2014 – July 18, 2014

- **Phase 3** - Select Renovations on Main and Upper Levels, Classrooms and Restrooms, Gym Renovations
  May 28, 2014 - Jul 30, 2014

- **Phase 4A** - Construction of New Administration, Media Center, and Connecting Corridor, Site Utilities, Paving and Landscaping Improvements

- **Phase 4B** - Select Renovations on the Main Level, Chorus, Band, and Classrooms

The Mary Lin Building Committee met several times over the summer, including most recently in late July with APS administrators, architects from Goode Van Slyke, and key team members from Hogan Construction.

The school year will begin with the school just as we left it; there will be no changes on day one. We will not lose the cafeteria until March of next year, and it will be back online for the fall of 2014. That means less time dealing with alternative lunch and PE arrangements. We will also still have use of the Hall House for this year.

When construction begins in September, we will lose use of the back parking lot. Teachers will then be parking on the streets surrounding the building, so parents accustomed to parking on the street nearby and walking children into the building should keep this in mind. Parents will be encouraged to use the carpool drop-off drive during this time.

When Phase 1 gets underway, the stretch of Candler Park Drive from the school down to North Avenue will become one lane (due to work on utilities). Plans are still being worked out for whether there will be traffic in two directions with flag people directing cars, or if that street will become one way for some period of time. Please stay tuned as this will have a significant impact on morning drop-off.

Look for project updates at candlerpark.org and via The Rocket (the Mary Lin email blast). Our entire fourth and fifth grades have been in trailers for years, and our neighborhood school is in major need of updates to bring it in line with modern school standards. This project will fix all of that! There will inevitably be some bumps and inconveniences along the way, but in the end it will all be worth it.
Business Spotlight: The Cult of CrossFit
By Paige Parvin

The neighborhood gym team advanced to worldwide competition this year.

If you frequent Candler Park Connection—the business complex located at DeKalb and Mell avenues—or have reason to drive on Mell regularly, chances are you have seen people sprinting up and down the street, carrying heavy objects, or pulling tires attached to ropes in the alley that leads to Pat Murphy Electric.

These people aren’t crazy—well, yes, they are—but they’re also clients of CrossFit Rx, the CrossFit affiliate gym that started out sharing space with Wall Crawler Rock Club and has since occupied three increasingly bigger spaces over the last six years. Now inhabiting the former warehouse that faces the alley, the gym has exploded in recent months with more than 200 members, from the fittest of competitive athletes to regular people who just want to get or stay in shape. (Disclaimer, and true story: I was a CrossFit Rx client for four years, during which my body fat dropped nearly 10 percent.)

“We attract people of all different shapes and sizes, all ages, all walks of life,” says Kelly Levens, co-owner of the gym along with Michael King. “Everybody who comes in is looking for something different, but most people just want to look better and feel better, to be more functional human beings.”

CrossFit Rx has a gated kids’ space to help busy parents find the time to work out, and recently completed a climbing wall on its upper floor. But like most CrossFit gyms, it doesn’t offer a lot of fancy equipment—just pull-up bars, some rowing machines, boxes for jumping, and weights. Lots of weights.

Levens, who grew up in a family of seven kids and has always been “good at playing,” discovered CrossFit when he moved to Atlanta a few years ago and visited CFRX. He was given a hallmark CrossFit workout, “Cindy”—20 minutes of five pull-ups, ten pushups, and 15 squats, repeated as many times as you can. He got an impressive 17 rounds, after which he threw up. “It was awesome,” he says. “I couldn’t wait to sign up.”

According to Levens, 95 percent of CrossFit Rx clients are ordinary folks who enjoy the challenge and effectiveness of the gym’s classes. But then there’s that other 5 percent—elite athletes who work out two hours every day in order to compete in CrossFit competitions. For the first time this year, the CrossFit Rx team advanced to the worldwide CrossFit Games, one of three teams from Atlanta to make the cut. The Rx team, which included Levens, placed 28th out of 43 teams, which Levens views as not bad for their first time out.

“Getting there was amazing,” he says, “but realizing we actually belonged was the real reward. I hope to get back there someday.” Like next year, maybe.

Photos by Crossfit Rx
Atlanta’s False Alarm Ordinance Amended

By Messenger Staff

Atlanta District 6 Councilmember Alex Wan notified constituents that new penalties would begin for Atlanta Police Department responses to false alarms.

Councilmember Wan’s August newsletter reported:

In an effort to improve public safety and better allocate resources, the City of Atlanta has enacted a series of amendments to the existing False Alarm Ordinance. In 2012, the Atlanta Police Department responded to 65,000 alarm system activations, 95% of which were false alarms or alarms that were cancelled en route. These calls represent more than 6% of the total 911 dispatches. With every call taking an average of 20-30 minutes, the equivalent of 8-12 full-time police officers were dedicated to responding to false alarms, thereby taking away valuable public safety resources from more pressing matters.

Under the amended ordinance, City of Atlanta residents and businesses are now required to register their security and burglar alarm systems. The new ordinance will take effect on September 15, 2013 and residents will have until February 1, 2014 to register without incurring an unregistered alarm penalty:

Registered Alarms

- 1st False Alarm: no fine
- 2nd False Alarm*: $50 fine
- 3rd False Alarm: $100
- 4th - 6th False Alarms: $200
- 7+ False Alarms: $500

* can be waived upon successful completion of an online alarm awareness class (limit one per 365 day period)

Unregistered Alarms

- $150 penalty

Residents can register their alarm system for free online at www.crywolf.us/atlantaga or by calling 1.855.725.7102. Make a note of your permit# upon successful registration. You will need to give your permit# to your alarm company.

The newsletter article also provided a link to a YouTube video on Atlanta’s False Alarm Ordinance: http://youtu.be/mNRIuJtIf0

Urban Gardeners of Candler Park

Submitted by Scott Jacobs

All gardeners, all levels, are welcome. We discuss how to get the most out of your flower and vegetable gardens. We talk gardening, trade tips, seeds, and plants, and tour gardens.

Contact gardenersofcandler@yahoo.com for more details.

Hope to see you there!
Zone 6 crime reports
compiled by David Bruce


1300 block Euclid Ave - Larceny from auto – 6/28 Fri Morn. Door left unlocked. Taken: Checks and face plate to CD player.

Candler Park – Larceny from auto – 6/28 Fri Eve. Parking lot. Window broken out. Taken: Apple I pod touch, laptop bag, Galaxy S3, Louis Vuitton purse, credit card, 5 debit cards and DL.

Candler Park – Larceny – 6/27 Thurs Eve. Victim said he placed his I phone behind the lifeguard near some towels and about 30 mins later he discovered it missing.

1400 block McLendon Ave - Auto theft – 6/24 Mon Day. Green Jeep CHK 2006 with GA tag was stolen. 3 young black males were seen driving it away. Witness knew the 3 from SW DeKalb HS. Car keys were taken off park bench.

Candler Park – Auto theft – 6/26 Wed Eve. Blue CHEV COB 2010 with KY tag was taken.

400 block Callan Cir – Robbery – 7/11 Thurs Day. Victim said she was approached by 4 young black males. One attempted to snatch her I phone and I pad. She said she noticed them hanging out before they pounced on her. She said she had her feet on the stroller when one of them tried to distract her by pushing the baby stroller onto the street. She held on to her property and they ran away along Brook Ave.

500 block Oakdale Rd – Burglary – 7/13 Sat Eve. Front door open with no damage. Desktop computer, laptop and I phone were missing.

400 block Callan Cir – Larceny from auto – 7/8 Sat Eve. Taken: Semi-automatic .380 pistol (Beretta 70S) and 2 quarters were taken. Victim left doors unlocked while he played tennis.


1500 block Marlbrook Dr – Larceny from auto – 7/11 Thurs Morn. Window broken. I pod taken.

Candler Park Pool Vandalized
By Messenger Staff

The Candler Park swimming pool was temporarily closed in early August due to vandalism. According to CPNO Recording Secretary Bonnie Palter, it was the second time the pool was closed this season.
Join or Renew Online in 2013

It’s a great way to get involved and keep up with what’s happening in Candler Park. Membership allows you to fully participate by voting in CPNO monthly meetings, receive e-mails with important news, and keep apprised of upcoming meetings.

Already a Member? Renew for 2013 by going to http://www.candlerpark.org/renew (yes, the bylaws require each member to renew)

To Join: Go to www.candlerpark.org and click “Membership”

Support CPNO with a Paypal donation today!

No computer? CPNO will still accept the paper application below, but its primary method of communication will be e-mail and The Messenger.

- Lexa King, CPNO Membership Secretary

CPNO Membership Application

Name: ___________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ ZIP: ________
Home phone: _______________ Mobile phone: ______________
Email: _____________________________________________
Minor Children (names and ages) _______________________
Any information NOT to be published in CP neighborhood directory?
_____________________________________________________

Business applicants list name, address and phone of designated agent:
Name of business: ___________________________________
Address of business: ___________________________________

Optional Contribution

Supporting CPNO with a PayPal donation today? If you wish to make a donation to help CPNO continue serving the neighborhood, please take this opportunity to make a contribution.

Please indicate either: New Enrollment _______ or Renewal _______
I elect to contribute ______________________________________

Membership Involvement and Interests

___ New neighbor welcome ___ Newsletter/Messenger
___ Historic Preservation ___ Candler Park/Environment
___ 5K/Road Races ___ Land Use / Zoning
___ Tour of Homes ___ Flyer Distribution
___ Fall Fest ___ Parent/child groups
___ Social events Other (specify) ____________________

If sending by mail, please address to:
CPNO Membership
P.O. Box 5418, Atlanta GA 31107

Friends of Candler Park Golf Course
By Messenger Staff

Founder Michael Short announced that the Friends of Candler Park Golf Course has been working with Councilmember Kwanza Hall and the Department of Parks and Recreation on a new youth program.

Michael plans to submit a $100,000 grant application this fall to Park Pride. The grant would cover the new youth program and fund other golf course projects. Among the items to be funded:

• clubhouse renovation, to include a new roof and new electrical wiring.

• construction of a new pond off of the fourth fairway, upstream of the existing beaver dam complex. A well and a pump are proposed for keeping the pond full, for keeping the downstream ponds fresh, and for supplying all of the golf course water needs.

• construction of a chipping/putting area to be used for the youth program’s practice area.

According to Michael, last year Park Pride awarded nearly $500,000 to projects and most applicants who sought funding were accepted.

The application deadline is September 27 and awards will be announced on December 1. This grant would have to be completed within 18 months.

To submit questions and comments to FoCPGC regarding the Park Pride grant, please send an email to: CPPPgrant@gmail.com
**CLASSIFIED ADS**


BARNABY’S GREEN THUMB INC. We make your yard glow when we mow, edge and blow. Other svcs on request. 30 yrs exp 404 373 1591.

For sale: Piano. Beautiful Kimball console + bench/mint condition/needs tuning/$450. jhannaford@comcast.net.

Lighthall’s Cleaning est 1989 weekly, bi-monthly, move in/out, one time great rates! 404 849 0832.

Toto’s Pet Service est 1997 regular dog walks/ in-home pet care $10. per visit 404 849 0832.
Survey Says ...........!

Have you made your voice heard about festivals in Candler Park? CPNO is still collecting input from residents about events held in the park, and we want to hear what you think.

How many festivals should we have each year? Is there a right size to these festivals? How do we handle parking and traffic?

Once all input is collected, we'll be sharing your ideas with the Mayor's Office of Special Events to help the City of Atlanta collaborate with CPNO on the best festival environment for our neighborhood.

The survey closes later this month, so be sure to visit the site below and fill out the short survey.

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CPNO_Festival_Survey